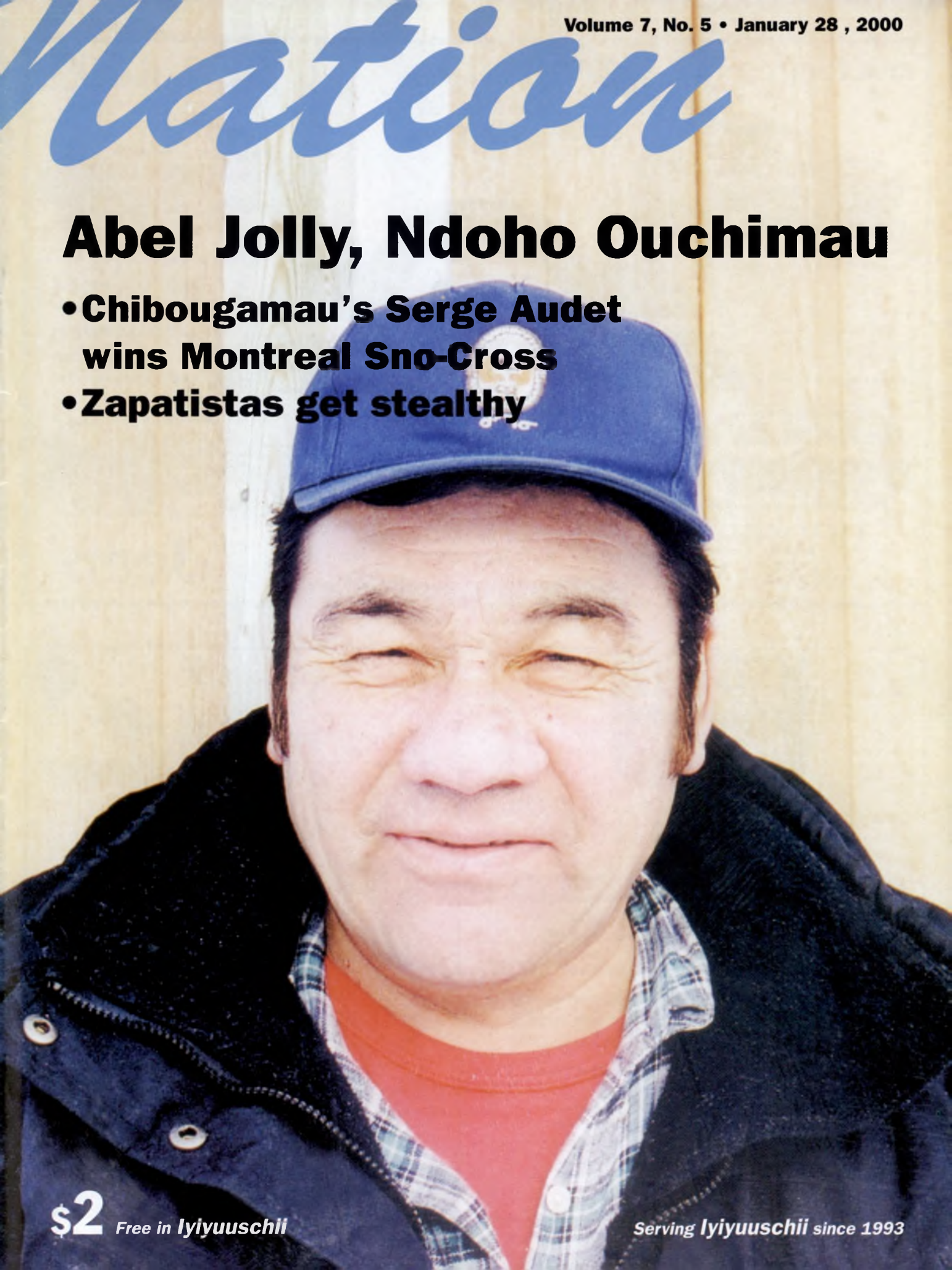
Volume 7, No. 5 • January 28 , 2000

Nation

Abel Jolly, Ndoho Ouchimau

- Chibougamau's Serge Audet wins Montreal Sno-Cross
- Zapatistas get stealthy



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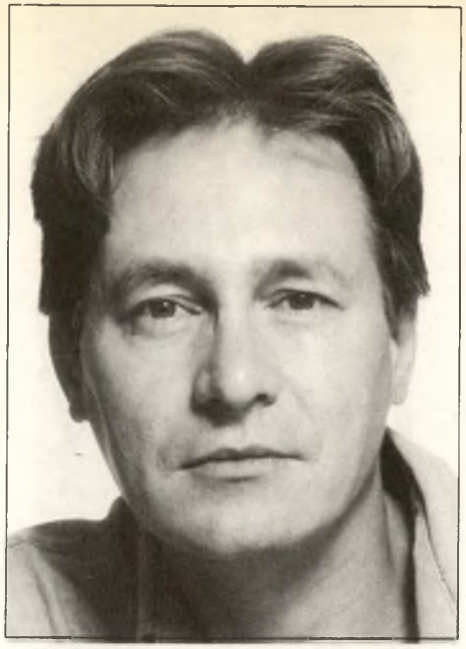
- to stop (something) happening or (someone) doing something.



What do you do when someone talks to you about what happened to them? Every now and then people phone us to talk about things happening in the communities. They tend to ask us to do something. It's a little hard to come up with concrete solutions or simply just tell the story. The story does go out most of the time and we hope that it helps with the problem. But these things are usually after the fact and that doesn't help with what happened. I remember in the past when there was much more respect for the belongings of other Crees. To be fair it just isn't Cree vandalizing Crees. We hear tales of bush camps robbed or trashed by non-Crees. Instead of just writing a news story I would like to bring up something else this editorial.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" means that it is better to do something early so that something bad does not happen, rather than try to make it better after it has happened. That's what I feel we should be working on. Hopefully the justice workshop will be coming up with solutions and prevention techniques based on traditional Cree knowledge and practices but in the meantime here are a few thoughts the police have on the idea.

Looking at internal theft and fraud. It seems that police stats say that one out of three employees steal from their employers. At risk are companies with a high cash flow or merchants who have resalable merchandise. In some cases goods are borrowed and never returned. One of the suggestions is to allow employee anonymity when giving information to stop these practices. Another is periodic inventory auditing. Never give one employee both purchasing and receiving functions, record all transactions in a ledger and check for billing errors. Police say to leave cash drawers and safes open when they have been emptied, remove valuable merchandise from display cases at closing time, and check all doors and windows to make sure they are locked at closing time. All these things give less reason for someone to break in or vandalize your place of business.

One of the most effective tools though is the Neighborhood Watch program. These help in many ways and are basically a form of cooperation between the police and local residents. Usually a committee is made up of people within a specific neighborhood rather than the whole community. Then the residents can concentrate on just their section. They can keep an eye on each other's house when they are out of town for a while or a nearby business after closing hours. They can inform the police of any suspicious people or activities. They can provide a safe place for kids to run to if there's trouble. This doesn't mean that all incidents will suddenly stop but it helps to cut down on the number of them. Police officers are usually willing to act as resource persons for these Neighborhood Watch committees.

Setting them up is as easy as talking to neighbors, a door-to-door visit. Usually about six people are a good number to coordinate all activities like getting out information, delegating responsibility, etc. No matter what you do let the police know about your project, get the support of the band council (you might get their help too) and promote it (let people know what you are doing).

In any case I guess what I'm saying is that people in the community is what is needed to make the community a better place to live. It requires you to give a little of your time to make the world a better place for all, so visit the police today and get some information on how to do things. They have all the information or can get it for you.

by William Nicholls

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Abel Jolly
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rezNotes
by Ndiamon

It is not the *Nation*'s standard policy, nor that of most newsmagazines, to reply to letters, whether they are critical or full of praise. But whoever accused *The Nation* of being your run-of-the-mill newsmagazine. So in this case we decided to make yet another exception and answer the letter's questions, clarify some points and put everyone at ease. (See letter on page 9.)

You ask us where, oh where the Millennium Issue we threatened to publish is. Rest assured our... correction... your millennium issue is on its way and is it ever going to be a doozie. It'll have everything you mentioned and more.

It'll have your Cree history, your profiles of well-known and not-so-well-known Crees, your never-before-published pictures galore in glorious technicolor and black and white, your crazy scratch-and-sniff ads, tear-out pages for your bedroom walls, maps, a where-are-they-today section, Native heroes, the best stories so far published in these very pages, legends, maybe a centrefold or two, and other eye and ear-catching surprises.

As for the GCCQ ads about "nothing", they should be applauded for their efforts in reaching out to the public. Besides, advertisements are our bread and butter. Otherwise we'd have to sell the paper instead of giving it away like we do.

I know, I know. It sounds like a lot. That's because it is a lot. The great thing is we still sit around late at night trying to think of more and more items to cram in there. There is not a day that goes by when we don't ask ourselves, what else? what else?

But some of us do have other lives other than *The Nation* (hard to believe isn't it?) Which is probably the reason why you felt that those previous issues weren't journalistic masterpieces. You yourself probably know all too well how difficult it is to create a masterpiece 26 times a year with looming deadlines.

I imagine it's also pretty hard to create one once a millennium. Anyone could argue, but Michelangelo himself only managed only two masterpieces in the last millennium. The Sistine Chapel's ceiling and the pathetically endowed "David."

My point is: masterpieces are pretty hard to come by. In any millennium. Which is probably why they got that name, Masterpiece. Imagine, if you will, if

masterpieces were as easy to come by as... oh, I don't know... the classifieds? - what would we call truly great creations? I don't know either.

But there are a few things I do know. I know for instance that, yes, the millennium issue will be published sometime this millennium and it just might be *our* one and only millennial masterpiece. You can't wait can you?

Finally, your requests for predictions on Superman, Michael, Elvis, La Toya, Britney and, last but not least, the Antichrist cannot be ignored.

Superman will lose the ability to fly and change his name to Superman, dress all in black, leather cape and all, and front a German New Wave band.

Michael will not come out, yet. Instead, he will seek out the author of this letter and beg to bear her children.

La Toya will live one of the those forgotten lives. Indeed, it's already beginning. When people bring up her name in polite company, they will be told: La Toya!? She is *soooo* 2nd millennium.

Young Britney will see the error of her ways and headline a tour with La Toya (eeek) to raise funds for victims of silicon implants. Fake Boobs Aid.

Elvis will see the error of his ways and stop showing up lousily disguised in hick American fast food joints. He will then write a tell-all book and reveal to us, finally and on page 666, the name of the Beast.

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PROVINCIAL REPORT RIPS FORESTRY POLICIES

Logging companies are out of control, and the government lacks the resources to do much about it, say the Quebec government's own forestry bureaucrats.

In a scathing report from Quebec's Natural Resources Ministry, the bureaucrats admit they don't know if logging companies are cutting sustainably, and they lack information on what's actually happening in the forests.

Loggers feel they can flout the law because fines are so small for violations of forestry regulations, says the report.

Meanwhile, the public doesn't have much input into forestry, and has only "limited" confidence in the government's management of the forests, the report adds.

Provincial forestry bureaucrats delivered the harsh appraisal in a report titled, "Updating the Forest System." This document, dated Sept. 1998, came out of a year of internal consultations inside the ministry.

The 47-page report, obtained by *The Nation*, recommends many changes to forest management. One is that First Nations should be consulted and have a say in forestry management.

Over and over, the report warns that the government has poor information about how logging is affecting the forests.

"At the present time, the department is unable to state with any degree of certainty whether or not the sustainable yield is respected," says the report.

"The department cannot confirm that all forest management permit holders have complied with all the provisions of the regulation, since it lacks effective control mechanisms," it says.

Louise Accolas, spokeswoman for Natural Resources Minister Jacques Brassard, refused to comment on the report. However, she added, "It goes without saying that the minister agrees with the document."

The province used the report as the basis of a public consultation last fall on Quebec's forest regime. Even though hundreds of copies circulated to environmentalists, unions, First Nations and other groups, the media has yet to pick up on the document.

The government is using the public's responses to rewrite its forestry legislation. It is expected to table a new forestry law next summer or fall.

Laval University forestry professor Luc Bouthillier praised the report as "very honest," but said it comes up short on concrete solutions. For example, the report admits the public isn't consulted enough, but doesn't say how the problem can be solved.

Bouthillier also said the philosophy of the report is still an old-school unsustainable style of forestry first cooked up in 1820.

The report is especially harsh on the government for not devoting enough resources to monitor logging: "Due to a lack of resources, not all offences are processed."

Fines are so low that they "are insufficient to have a real dissuasive effect for offenders." The report recommends "more dissuasive penalties" for companies.

The report concludes on a dismal note: "The departmental organization is beginning to run out of breath. The population's confidence in the department as a forest manager is limited."

by Alex Roslin

Now that's da bomb!

This article appeared in the Mexican daily La Jornada *on January 3. (Translated by Duane Ediger.)*

CHIAPAS, MEXICO — The Zapatista Air Force today attacked the Mexican Federal Army encampment here with paper airplanes. Some flew well and manoeuvered themselves right into the dormitories, hidden by vegetation and large black plastic sheeting. Others sputtered in flight and barely cleared the barbed wire fence.

The aircraft, white in colour and letter-sized, carried written messages for the federal troops which have occupied a portion of the outskirts of this community for the last five months. The barbed wire is not the only cutting edge: "Soldiers, we know that poverty has made you sell your lives and souls. I also am poor, as are millions. But you are worse off, for defending our exploiter — Zedillo and his group of moneybags."

The daily, persistent and almost incredible protest of the indigenous of this region against the military occupation of their lands on the outskirts of Montes Azules has sought in many ways to make itself heard by the troops, who appear to live on the other side of the sound barrier. This afternoon they took to the air in typewritten notes, originals and carbon copies.

They wrote several editions to maximally equip their contingent of Kamikaze letter-bombers. The plane is the bomb: "We do not sell our lives. We want to free our lives and those of your children, your lives and those of your wives, your brothers and sisters, your uncles and aunts, fathers and mothers, and the lives of millions of poor exploited Mexicans. We want to free their lives also so that soldiers do not repress their towns by the order of a few thieves."

In recent nights, the military encampment has remained on alert. All night, every 25 minutes, a voice is heard saying, "Alert, alert," among the soldiers. "So that they don't sleep," says Jose, a Tzeltal Maya peasant who has spent those nights in the encampment of the peasants, and during the day dream up protest options.

When good cops don't go bad

Letter to *The Nation*:

I would like to respond to a letter that appeared on page 29 of the December 17 edition of your paper. More specifically, the letter was entitled, "When good cops go bad." The writer made a number of allegations which impugn the integrity of the Ouje-Bougoumou Territorial Peacekeepers and this is the main reason that prompts me to respond.

I have no idea where the author of the letter obtained his/her information, but the statements made in the letter are totally inaccurate. It would appear as though the person who was ultimately found guilty of the trafficking and possession of drugs probably relayed certain information to the author. Some of this information may have been factual but, more likely than not, most of it was probably the result of a fertile imagination. There were no other adult persons in the residence at the time the arrest was made.

The letter in question was written anonymously from a Cree community and reference was made to the fact that the police in that community are called "Peacekeepers." Considering that no other Cree community employs police officers with the title of Peacekeeper, it should have been obvious to your editorial staff that the Police Service in the Cree community of Ouje-Bougoumou was the target of the author's poison pen.

Rather than print an anonymous letter that was so clearly critical of the Police Service at this location without attempting to establish whether or not there was any truth to the allegations, responsible journalism should have dictated to you the need to verify the accuracy of the information contained therein. Any newspaper's obligation to check the facts should always be paramount especially when the newspaper is considering the possibility of publishing an anonymous letter.

I am certain you will agree that it is very easy for anyone to present information that is harmful to another party or organization, particularly when they are doing so under the cloak of anonymity. I believe you acted irresponsibly in printing this letter without first having checked with someone in our Police Service. This would have given us a chance to give you the facts as we knew them and would at least have allowed us the opportunity of responding to the serious allegations that were made against us. I further believe you owe the Ouje-Bougoumou Territorial Peacekeepers an apology for this grave lapse in responsible journalism.

Had you bothered to check with us before publishing this slanderous letter which is harmful to the image of our Police Service, you would have learned that the facts of the case were somewhat different from those described. For example, you would have learned that the police did not just "barge" into the person's home.

The arrest was made in a completely legal manner and the Peacekeepers who entered the home did so only after they had obtained the required "warrant to enter" from a

continued on page 9

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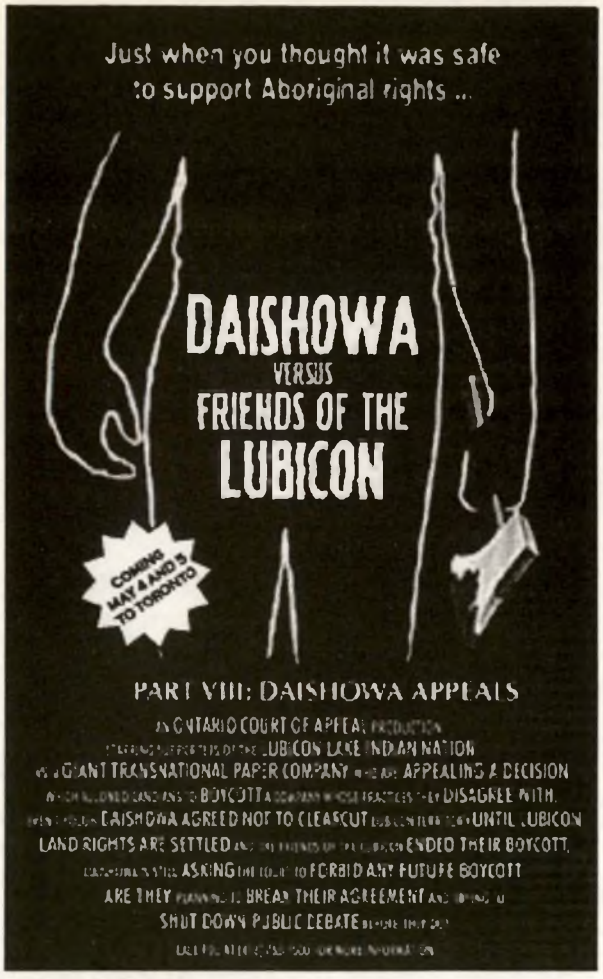
No boycott but Daishowa back in court

A BOYCOTT that hurt multinational forestry corporation Diashowa was ended when Diashowa agreed not to cut on Lubicon Cree lands in western Canada as long as the Cree land claims were outstanding. Diashowa went so far as to give up cutting rights to the land. Why then, ask the Friends of the Lubicon, is Diashowa going back to court on May 4?

That is when Diashowa will be appealing a 1998 Ontario court decision that said the consumer boycott was a "model of how such activities should be conducted in a democratic society?"

Dan Berman, of Amitié Lubicons-Quebec, has an answer. He says that even though Diashowa has given up the right to cut the trees in the Lubicon area, it turned around and made an agreement to purchase trees from Lubicon land with another forestry company that brought the cutting rights to the area in question.



Berman said the lawsuit could be considered a SLAPP lawsuit. SLAPP means Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation, and is a tactic used by major corporations to limit the things people can say or do. Lawyers of people or organizations hit with a SLAPP tell them to tone it down until after the court case. "We're concerned about the implications of a multinational attempting to limit free speech and why they are trying to make a boycott illegal when there is no boycott at this time," Berman said.

"Why would you ask for an injunction against a boycott that no longer exists? Why should the Court even be hearing this?" asks Kevin Thomas, spokesperson with the group Friends of the Lubicon. "It only makes sense if Daishowa is planning to break its own written promise and wants to silence any potential criticism before doing so. As long as Daishowa keeps its word, there's no boycott to shut down."

Daishowa claimed the boycott cost the company $14 million until June 1998, when it was called off. In January 1996, an Ontario appellate court agreed that the boycott was "causing economic harm" to Diashowa and illegal. The judge issued a temporary injunction that was later overturned in 1998.

Friends of the Lubicon called off the boycott when Daishowa made a commitment not to log or buy wood cut on Lubicon traditional territories until the land rights are settled, and until a timber harvesting agreement respecting Lubicon wildlife and environmental concerns is negotiated.

The Lubicon Lake First Nation is a small Cree society living in northern Alberta who have been struggling for over 60 years to gain recognition of their land rights. Huge amounts of oil and gas were discovered on their land and the resulting exploitation has lead to other interests such as forestry coming into the Lubicon territory. After fighting for recognition the Lubicon Crees have mounted an international campaign to have their rights recognized.

"We're trying to survive from day to day and need all the help we can get from the general public," said Lubicon Chief Bernard Ominayak in a statement.

by William Nicholls

Quebec appeals Croteau forestry ruling

As predicted, Quebec has appealed Justice Jean-Jacques Croteau's scathing judgement in the Cree forestry court case.

Quebec is arguing that the Superior Court judge overstepped his bounds and made a ruling before all the evidence was in.

On Dec. 20, Croteau ruled that Quebec's forest regime violates Cree rights. He gave Quebec six months to start changing it.

The judge had ruled on what's called a "safeguard order," which Crees had requested as part of the Mario Lord forestry case filed in 1998.

It could take years before there is a final judgement in the court case. So the Crees requested a safeguard order, in which the judge was asked to order the government not to approve any new forest management plans while the case is before the court.

The plans are what makes the whole forestry system go. Forest companies need to submit the plans every five years to get a permit to cut trees.

The judge ruled in favour of the Crees, but he gave the government and companies some breathing room - six months - to start changing the system to respect Cree rights.

Crees also requested three injunctions, which are separate from the safeguard order. They asked the court to order Quebec and Canada to respect the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in their forestry laws.

Crees also asked for logging to be stopped in 24 vulnerable Cree traplines. And they asked for a stop to the construction of a new logging road north of Waswanipi.

Hearings on these three injunction motions were supposed to start after Christmas. But Quebec's appeal of Croteau's Dec. 20 ruling will sideline the injunction hearings for now.

Inuit sue for $18.7M

Forty two Inuit are suing the Canadian government for $18.7 million, claiming physical, psychological and sexual abuse while they attended a federally run residential school in northern Quebec in the 1960s.

The Inuit say they were forcibly taken from their homes and taken to the school in Inukjuak, and forbidden from speaking their language.

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continued from page 6

judge in Chibougamau. More importantly, the action was not initiated "for whatever reason," but for a good and valid reason, namely to arrest a person who was suspected of having committed a criminal offence.

Again, had you verified the facts with us before publishing this offensive and derogatory letter you would have learned that the quantity of pot that had been found was 9.54 grams and not 0.8 or 0.6 as the author would have us believe. But I suppose when a person is intent on damaging the image of an honest Police Service, it matters little whether the decimal point gets placed in the wrong place of a number that is being quoted. To be fair to the author he/she did say, "I don't really remember," when referring to the precise quantity of the illegal substance that had been seized.

It seems fairly evident that the author of the letter does not like policemen. This does not bother me greatly. I think it is fair to say that most of us who don the uniform do not do so as a means of satisfying some overwhelming need to be loved by the people who live in our community. We realize that law enforcement activities can frequently put us at odds with many of the people who reside in our community. As they say, it comes with the job. However, we are sworn to uphold the law and most law-abiding citizens expect us to do just that. We have no intention of turning a blind eye to drug traffickers who are trying to make easy money by selling drugs to young children.

I further think our Peacekeeping efforts would be aided greatly if certain members of the media would act more responsibly before publishing written material that is submitted anonymously. By taking appropriate action to ensure that allegations are checked into before being presented as factual information, it would lessen the likelihood of damaging the image of a Police Service that is striving hard to maintain peace, order and public security.

Gilles St-Gelais
Chief Constable, Ouje-Bougoumou

Millennium, shmillennium

Letter to *The Nation*:

Where is the millennium issue? If you're going to answer, "The millennium issue was

already released last week!" then I will just have to ask you guys again. Where is the millennium issue?! I hope that the last two issues were not considered as some sort of journalistic masterpiece. Far from it, I have to say. I mean come on guys, this is the new millennium!! (Well, for most anyway.) Where are all of our greatest achievements of the last century? Where are the editorials of our great leaders of the last century? Where are the stories of how we became who we are today? Where is the history of how our leaders of today became our leaders of today? Where are the "what we were" to "what we are today" editorials?

The Nation, of all Cree entities, must be the most resourceful one of all. With all the previous editorials (both clean and dirty), you must be able to write up some sort of history of our people/leaders/teachers. Make us proud; make us stand up and say "YES! YES! I AM A CREE!" Don't count on the GCCQ to put another one-page ad of nothing! Tell us about our people. Tell us about our communities.

Perhaps you can dedicate each issue to one community's achievements, leaders, etc. Tell us how Mistissini was founded. How Waskaganish was founded. Tell us how the signing of the JBNQA came about. Who signed it? What was the purpose of its signing. I could go on and on and on but I am not the journalist here. I am not the one with all of these resources. *The Nation* is. Make us proud!

Tell us about the great achievements of the late Annie Whiskeychan, the Journey Through the Heart of the Eeyou Istchee, the rise (and fall?) of the "Cree empire," the Great Whale project victory, how our people overcame and dealt with the residential school syndrome, our way of life then, our way of life now.

Another question: Where the hell are the predictions for the new year 2000? For the next century? For the new millennium? Sure, I have seen resolutions, but who needs to read a bunch of promises that are just made to be broken anyway. One finds redemption each new year, I guess because it's the start of the new year and they are forgiven for their "sins" of the past year. Hell, if you can survive one year these days, then I guess you should give yourself a pat on the back and tell yourself, "I WANT TO BE A BETTER PERSON! I WANT TO LIVE AGAIN! I WANT TO STOP BEING A BITCH TO MY NEIGHBOUR AND TO MY NEIGHBOUR'S DOG!"

Thus, NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS! A bunch of hogwash, if you ask me. Give me predictions, I say! Give me the name of the soon-to-come antichrist! I want to know if Michael and Latoya are really the same

"I WANT TO BE A BETTER PERSON! I WANT TO LIVE AGAIN! I WANT TO STOP BEING A BITCH TO MY NEIGHBOUR AND TO MY NEIGHBOUR'S DOG!"

person! I want to know if Michael will come out of the closet this year! I want to know that Elvis is back on tour again! I want to know if Britney will suffer from the side effects of silicone implants and what this will do to her! Will she be the new spokeswoman for the fight against fake boobs! I WANT TO KNOW IF SUPERMAN WILL EVER FLY AGAIN!

Don't give me a list of lies I am supposed to tell myself (from Jan. 1 to 2, 2000) in order to make myself feel better for my sins. Give me a list of predictions so I may know if the world will come to an end next year.

Anyway, just thought I would share some of my feelings with you Nationites. Please do not disappoint a devoted and faithful reader of *The Nation*. (No, I do not buy it for the classifieds.)

Jennifer M. Petawabano, Mistissini

Ed. Note: Please turn to Rez Notes for Neil's reply (page 4).

"I love my land"

When I first read Abel Jolly's affidavit in the Mario Lord forestry court case, I was a little stunned to realize something that has always stared me in the face.

You might say I couldn't see the forest for the lack of trees. I realized what is happening to the Crees with forestry is nothing more than what happened to the Plains Indians when the buffalo were slaughtered in their millions.

For the lack of a resource, a culture - a people - were impoverished and nearly destroyed. When you read the words of Abel Jolly you'll realize that the practice continues to this day. The slaughter of trees on Cree land will impoverish us. You can feel and see it as you read the Ndoho Ouchimau's testimony. Unfortunately we couldn't include everything he said due to space, but we included as much as we could.

-William Nicholls

...

Abel Jolly: I am one of the members of the Nemaska First Nation. I am 56 years old. I have always lived on my hunting territory since I was a child. I love my land. It is my home and it was entrusted to me. However, there has been some cutting on my land. This makes me sad and confused about the future of the land for my children, grandchildren and future generations who will be using this traditional territory.

Since my wife passed away in March 1996, I am frequently alone in my camp. I find strength there knowing I can feed my children with the products of my hunting, fishing and trapping activities. My intention is to transfer my hunting territory to two or three of my children for the next generation to be able to continue the Cree traditional way of life. However, the cutting is a threat to these plans.

I am a full-time hunter, fisherman and trapper. I mostly go into the bush during fall, winter, spring and part of summer. I spend about 200 days in the bush per year. I am the Ndoho Ouchimau, or tallyman, of my hunting territory, now known as N-20.

As Ndoho Ouchimau of my hunting territory, I have full authority over my land. Everyone in our community knows this and respects it. My authority lets me decide who should be allowed access to the land. I can direct people who are in need to highly productive areas where they can successfully hunt, fish or trap. All Crees understand my important role. I should be able to exercise my authority with non-Native people. Unfortunately, they do not understand that I am the guardian of the Ndoho Istchee. It is my job to manage my land and ensure that it is not over-exploited. I am the guardian of conservation for future generations.

Since my hunting territory has already been affected by forestry operations, I think it is time for the courts to intervene in order to protect my land for my children to continue exercising the Cree traditional way of life. I do not want the land to be denuded from all its trees. Trees are very important for us Crees, as well as the forest.

"My father has always looked after the land. The land has always looked after my father. The land has always looked after me."

As a result of the forestry operations and other factors, it is becoming more and more difficult for me to manage my hunting territory, while it is my role to make sure that the principle of conservation for future generations is respected.

Forestry cutting has disturbed the Cree season cycle, notably by interfering with and destroying wildlife habitats. However, I try to maintain the Cree traditional way of life as much as I can. But it is not the same as it used to be.

During the fall season, to the extent that I can, I hunt moose, bears and small game, I gather berries and some medicinal plants, I do the inventory of beaver lodges, and I harvest fish and trap a little. At this time of year, there is no trapping for small game such as marten, mink and otter as their fur is not yet prime and, economically, it has little market value. Hunting for waterfowl (geese and ducks) is very intense at this time of year. Gillnet fishing for mainly walleye, pike, suckers, catfish and whitefish for food is carried out. I also hunt for small game like partridge and rabbit around or near my camp.

"I am the guardian of conservation for future generations."

During the winter season, to the extent I can, I intensively hunt fur-bearing animals, I hunt small game, I selectively hunt moose during the mid-winter, I visit other areas of my hunting territory for inventory and for planning purposes and I traditionally get ready for the spring. I go back to the community for about two weeks to be with my children for Christmas holidays and I return to my camp around the second week of January after buying the essential basic commodities. My trapping activities are concentrated on beaver, marten, mink, otter, lynx and other fur-bearing animals as this is the time of year when the fur is at its prime.

During January and February, the snow is soft. When I hunt moose, I use my snowshoes because the softness of the snow makes no noise. This is the best time of the year to hunt moose. The majority of the hunting for moose occurs in the months of February and March because of deep snow conditions and the fact that the mid-winter rains produce ice crusts immobilizing moose in their winter yards. When I kill a moose, the meat is shared with family members and/or other Ndoho Eenouch on other areas of the hunting territory, and some meat is sent to the community. Moose has always been an important animal for us Crees. We respect moose deeply.

My harvesting activities are not always successful. Sometimes, the animals are not around when I hunt. This can go on for days but I still find the strength to continue my traditional way of life. There are good and bad times.

In early spring, the sun makes the snow hard. This makes it difficult for the moose to travel. I and other Ndoho Eenouch hunt moose during that period. I also leave traps for small game including otter. Goose hunting is very intense at this time of year and lasts two weeks. During the early spring hunting season, my children and grandchildren who were in school or at work are on "goose break" and live with their families out on the trapline. This is the most important period of the Cree calendar and for families to come together as a family unit. During the late spring, we fish using a gillnet and nightlines. The fish we take is smoked and put in freezers in the community; some we can eat fish during the summer months.

During the summer season, we Crees do not do very much hunting. We understand that young wildlife must have time to feed and grow. We respect this natural process and try to save animals such as moose or bear from hunting. No female moose is harvested during summer season.

I and the Ndoho Eenouch as well as my ancestors used to use different species of trees for different purposes. Now our culture has been modernized. However, sometimes we still make use of the wood for different purposes. Sometimes it is not possible for us to purchase the equivalent. We also sometimes choose to use wood to continue living off the land like our ancestors have showed us.

For example, birch and tamarack were used and sometimes still are used to make axe handles, bow and arrow frames, sleighs or toboggans, shovels, cooking utensils, snowshoe frames and baby rattle frames. The birch bark was used and sometimes still is used to wrap any kind of meat for storage and as a fire starter, for moose calls, for food baskets, for canoe covers, for teepee canvas, to cover storage (e.g. hunting equipment), for containers for placing meat and for writing and making designs on.

Spruce was used and sometimes still is used for teepee and tent frames, sleighs, firewood, baby cradle boards, paddles, shovels, bow and arrow frames. Boughs are used and sometimes still are used for teepee and tent flooring. The rotting wood is used for smoking moose hides and food like fish and meat.

Tamarack branches were used and sometimes are used to make bird decoys for hunting when it is not possible to have rubber bird decoys. Tamarack branches are still used for decorative bird decoys.

Cont'd on page 12

"I love my land"

Cont'd from page 11

Cedar and tamarack were used and sometimes still are traditionally used to make canoes, drum frames, baby rattle frames, snowshoe frames and fish net indicators. Cedar and pine cones can be used as colour dies for fishnets. Birch and willow branches are used for bait when snaring rabbit.

Poplar is used for firewood when dry or green. Young stands are used for slingshot frames and rotting wood for smoking moose hides, moose meat, fish and bear meat. Poplar is the food for beaver and also bait for trapping. Dry wood is used to burn quills of porcupine in an open fire and to burn some feathers from waterfowl (e.g. ducks, geese, etc.) Alder and young balsam fir are types of wood that are eaten by moose during the fall and winter. Because of its flexibility, alder was also used to hold a fly net to cover a baby hammock (protection from flies).

My hunting territory has been disturbed by forestry operations and by forest fires for a long time. I do not understand these forestry companies. Why do they need so many trees? I was told they took a lot in the south. Why do they need more?

Around March, the forestry companies do not use the winter roads anymore. They take their machines out of the roads and on the land because of the spring thaw, the winter roads being flooded. Now, my hunting territory is covered with wetlands. It was not that way before.

Domtar Inc. has been clear-cutting on my hunting territory. I do not approve of this cutting and I refuse once again to move my main camp site. It has been previously moved with the help of Domtar Inc., but I refuse to move again.

The forestry companies have left buffer-zone strips along the streams and rivers of my hunting territory. I have noticed that the trees still fall and dry up in these areas. I do not think their techniques work around the stream. I think it affects and destroys animal habitats. They should ask advice from the Crees. We know our land. Even some winter moose habitats have been destroyed by forestry operations in the northern part of my hunting territory. Good areas for loon and geese have also been disrupted. I have not consented to this.

My father, the late Philip Jolly, taught me the traditional Cree knowledge. I want to do the same and continue to teach my children how to carry out the Cree traditional way of life. I have already taught some of my children the Cree traditional way of life. I want them to be able to exercise it. I fear that the forestry operations could prevent them from doing so.

In the past, game could be found close to my camp. Sine the forestry operations have started in my hunting territory, the large game and particularly moose has moved away. Once again, the fact that moose has moved away will take away a very important part of our traditional activities.

I hunt marten. Marten does not stay in areas disturbed by forestry.

Cont'd on next page

"I do not understand these forestry companies. Why do they need so many trees?"

"I love my land"

Cont'd from previous page

As I have told you, these forestry activities have significantly affected my traditional way of life. My father has always looked after the land. The land has always looked after my father. The land has always looked after me. I want the land to look after my children but I am afraid that the companies cut as they please as they did down south.

Even the taste of water is not the same. Now, I use snow during winter to drink while I used to fetch water in my hunting territory. My children and grandchildren will not be able to continue living off the land if all these forestry operations continue. The forestry activities even impact on our dietary source of food, particularly on the animals that eat aquatic plants like beaver, fish and moose. The beaver tastes very different now. This might have effects on my physical person. I liked it before there was forestry. There is now less and less beaver around.

In the past, there was plenty of geese within a small bay area, but now we only see a few. Animals and fish and their habitat disappear when forestry operations are carried out by forestry companies, particularly in the areas which have been clear-cut. Once they have finished cutting and the forest is removed, it is not possible to carry out my harvesting activities of hunting, fishing and trapping. I cannot return to exercising my traditional activities until the forest has fully grown, and that takes time. As they cut more trees and remove more forest, my land base continues to get smaller and smaller. A healthy land base is essential for me to be able to continue practicing the Cree way of life. As my land base keeps getting smaller and smaller, it becomes more and more difficult for me to pass on my traditional knowledge to my children, as everything has changed. If I cannot instruct my children how to manage the land and how to care for the animals and forest, our ways will be lost.

The noise of heavy machinery operating 24 hours a day is very disturbing for me and the Ndoho Eenouch of my hunting territory.

There is erosion of the soil into the waterways. The colour of the water has changed and so has the smell. You can tell that the water is full of soil from the logging.

The Creator gave the way the land is formed, grew plants, made animals, made the land beautiful and made it possible for us to find some economic benefit. The forests created by the Creator have to be saved in order to have something left to pass on to my children and grandchildren. I want to maintain the Cree way of life.

So far, the only consultation done by the forestry companies was to send us information on their cutting plans. I had no say in the plan but was only informed. My point of view has never been taken into account. They should take into account our concerns, otherwise nothing will be left.

I understand the importance of the logging for the people who work in that job. I know that they have families that rely on the jobs. However, my family also relies on the land. Right now, our needs are not being considered.

Turn to page 15 for the cree version

"My hunting territory is covered with wetlands. It was not that way before. Even the taste of water is not the same. The beaver tastes very different now. This might have effects on my physical person."

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ᓂᕆᑎᑦᓯᒃ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᐊᒋᑦ ᐊᐅᓕᑦ ᑭᓴ ᐊᐅᑉ ᑲ ᒥᓴᒋᑦ ᑎ ᑎᓴᓯᓂᒪᓕᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᓴᖅ ᒪᑦ ᑦ ᐅᓪᓕᓂᓂᓱᓅ ᐊᓂᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅᓂᖅ. ᓄᒧᐃᐃ ᒪᑦ ᓄᐊᓱᓴᓂᐊᓕᖅ ᐊᑦ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓂᒋᓴᓂᐊᓕᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ ᑲᑎᑕᐅᓕᕆᔨᓄᑦ, ᐅᓂᓕᓂᑦ ᑭᑦᓂ ᐊᓂᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅᓂᖅ. ᐊᐅᑉ ᓂᑦ ᑦ ᐃᓐᓇᓗ ᐊᓂᑦ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓂᒋᓴᓂᐊᓕᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ, ᐊᐅᑉ ᓄᐃᓱᓂᓄᑦ ᐅᑦᑎ ᐊᑦ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓂᒋᓴᓂᐊᓕᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ.

ᒥᑎᓕᖅ ᓄᓪᓕᐊᓂᑦ ᐊᓂᑦ ᐊᑲ ᐃᑦᑕᓐᓂᖅ ᓅᖅᑭᑦ ᑲ ᐃᓐᓇᓗ ᐊᑲ ᐊᓂᑦ ᐃᓐᓇᓗᓪᓕᖅ ᓄᓪᓕᐊᓂᑦ. ᐊᐅᑉ ᓄᓪᓕᐊᓂᑦ 1996. ᐊᒋᑦ ᓂᓪ ᐊᐅᑉ ᑎᓴᓯᓂᖅ ᑲ ᑎᓴᓕᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᑲᓂᑭ ᐊᐅᓕᑦᑲᓄᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᐊᐅᑉ ᓂᓪ ᑲ ᐃᑦᑕᓐᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᑲᓂᑭ ᒥᓴᒋᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᐊᐅᑉ ᓂᓪ ᑲ ᐃᑦᑕᓐᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᑲᓂᑭ ᒥᓴᒋᑦ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ, ᐊᐅᑉ ᓄᐅV20 ᐊᑎᓂᓕᓂᓴ ᑲ ᐃᓐᓇᓗ ᑎᓴᓯᓂᒪᓕᖅ.

ᐊᐅᑉ ᓄ ᑎᓂᐊ ᑕᓕᓴᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ ᐊᑲ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅ ᐅᑎᓚᐅᑦᓴᖅ. ᑎᓂᓕᐊ ᐊᐊᑦ ᑎᓴᓯᓂᑎᓂᖅ ᐊᓂᑦ ᓴᑎᓚᖅᓂᖅ ᑎᓂᓕᐊ ᐊᐊᑦ ᑎᓴᓯᓂᖅ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓐᓇᓗ ᑎᑎᕋᐅᓕᖅᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅᓂᖅ. ᐊᑦ ᐊᑲ ᐅᑎᓚᐅᑦᓚᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅ, ᐊᒋᑦ ᓂᑦ ᐅᓪᓕᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᐊᐊᑦ ᑎᑎᕋᐅᓕᖅᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᓂᑭ ᐊᑲ ᐅᓪᓕᓂᓚᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᖅᓂᖅ, ᐊᐅᑉ ᐃᓐᓇᓗᓪᓕᖅ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓐᓇᓗᓪᓕᖅᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ. ᐊᐅᑉ ᐊᑲ ᐃᓐᓇᓗᓪᓕᖅᓂᖅ ᓄᓇᕗᑦᑎᐅᑎᑦ,

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AN INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR EEYOU ISTCHEE

The GCC/CRA in collaboration with the nine (9) Cree First Nations has undertaken a study to address the issue of integrated waste management in Eeyou Istchee. The study started looking into the potential for recycling in the communities. It will help find solutions and alternatives to present practices of solid waste disposal. Reuse and composting are other aspects under consideration. This exercise should assist in developing a common vision or policy with regards to residual materials and the associated economic development opportunities. An environmental education program is also being considered as part of this framework.

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GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ASTCHEE)
GRAND CONSEIL DES CRIS (EEYOU ASTCHEE)

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Montreal Super Snowcross

By Ernest Webb

"Il est fou!" The lady behind us exclaimed. The crazy guy in question was Serge Audet. Serge was competing in the Montreal Super Snowcross which was held January 16 at the Molson Centre. Snow had been dumped into the rink area of the Centre. A snowmobile track had been laid out complete with bumps and a big whoopdeedoo. We saw the track and we didn't believe that a race would be possible within the confines of the boards. After getting our obligatory hotdogs we settled into our seats and waited for the races to begin.

The semi pros took to the track and made believers out of Neil and I. The course was short but some serious racing did occur. However; the length of the track made for some difficulties for passing. Whoever made the first corner ahead of the pack usually stayed ahead to win. Audet was clearly the most agressive on the track, with the first pass of the evening, hence the "he is crazy" remark. The crowd was clearly with him. Serge Audet on his Arctic Cat went on to win the feature race of the Open Pro with a ten thousand dollar first prize.

Another Chibougamau-ite was on hand that evening, Steeve Girard. Lady Luck was not by Girards side that evening. Girard was unable to recover from the mishaps and pileups during the races, even during the last chance races. The Sno-Falcon made it's second public debut during the event. The quasi-motorcycle-snowmobile machine did some demo laps around the track. The kids even made a showing. Aged from 6 to 10 years old, Jordan Sawyer, St-Elli D'orford, PQ on a Ski-Doo took the win.

The other categories and winners included, Pro Women, Mary Orr, Coldwater, ON (Ski-Doo), Semi-Pro Open, Joshua Zelinski, East Lansing, MI (Arctic Cat), Pro 500, Rich Sawyer, Savoy, NY (Ski-Doo).

FLU SEASON

By Xavier Kataquapit

What you don't know about the flu could seriously harm yourself or someone you love. The flu virus is a real epidemic this winter and has been affecting many people I know from up the James Bay coast and around my circle of friends in northern Ontario. People are getting sick and in most cases I am hearing this recent flu is severe and long lasting.

The flu, or influenza, was first identified in the 1930s, and since then has been classified into types A, B and C, with A being the most serious and most prevalent. The flu is an acute respiratory infection caused by a variety of influenza viruses. Flu usually occurs during the winter. Twenty to 50 percent of the population may be affected by the flu, and the highest incidents are with five to 14-year-olds. So families with school children are more likely to get the flu. The flu is very contagious so schools are a natural place for transmission.

The real danger with flu is in the serious effects it has on the very old, the very young and people with compromised immune systems. Viruses that cause flu spread from person to person mainly by coughing and sneezing or though something as simple as shaking hands. After a person has been affected by the flu virus, symptoms usually appear within two to four days and the infection is usually considered infectious for two to four days after symptoms appear. It is difficult to protect the old and the very young from contagious people because the flu can be spread by someone whose symptoms are not yet apparent.

"Twenty to 50 percent of the population may be affected by the flu..."

Once a person has the flu, treatment usually consists of resting in bed, drinking plenty of fluids and taking medication such as aspirin to relieve fever and discomfort. Antibiotics are not affective against flu viruses. The real problem with the flu has to do with complications that can arise from bacterial infections in the lower respiratory tract, which can result in pneumonia and sometimes infections like staphylococci, streptococci and Haemophilus influenzae type B.

Elderly people are very susceptible to the flu and because their immune systems generally weakened with age; they are also in danger of complications. I am especially concerned for our First Nation communities, which are closely knit. We as First Nation people tend to mix a lot through visits and gatherings, and I don't think we know a lot about health dangers such as the flu. Many of our Elders get very sick and some pass away with serious flu. I think it is important to remind everyone that when a flu is circulating in our community we should take great caution in dealing with our elderly and the very young. If you have been in contact with people with the flu or you yourself have flu symptoms, make a point to stay away from the elderly and the very young. If you are in their presence don't have body contact with them as in shaking hands, kissing and hugging, and try to stay away from the immediate area where your coughing could infect them.

If you have been in contact with people with the flu or you have flu symptoms, do your grandfather, grandmother or great-uncle or great-aunt a favour and stay away from them for a while. Don't visit nursing homes and try to stay away from contact with the public where you can spread the flu.

I realize that this kind of caution is difficult for most First Nation people, as we are very social - we like to visit and attend events. Some little precautions and awareness could help keep a serious flu away from an elderly person or a very young one whom we love. So here's hoping you don't get the flu and if you do get it you will try your best not to pass it along to anyone else.

Montreal Super Snowcross

PHOTOS BY NEIL DIAMOND

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100-BIRTHS

Belated congratulations to my cousin Michael Mapachee and his future wife Melissa Bosum on the birth of their second son Brett Paul Ashton Keenan Mapachee born on October 25, 1999 at 3:38 pm, weighing ten pounds, three ounces. Take care of him. Also your other son Garrette. J'espere que tu vas amener tes deux fils a Amos et je souhaite bonne chance avec tes fils. De Priscilla, Kevin et Quindon (Waskaganish)

I would like to congratulate my buddy in Waswanipi Nadia Happyjack on the birth of her first baby boy, born November 1, 1999 in Chibougamau. Weighing over 9 pounds. Take care of your little boy. Love in friendship, Stephanie Meskino.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes going out to my baby brother Delphis Gunner who celebrates his birthday on Feb. 4, 2000. Hope you enjoy your day. Be good in school, don't give your teacher at a hard time. Anyways happy birthday and many more to come. With love, your sister, Melanie.

Happy belated birthday on November 11th to my mass media friend Paul, way south at Cambrian College in Sudbury, Ont. So, how are the books treating you? Hope you are fine. I am doing fine back home, a little bored but I'm keeping myself busy. Hope to see you soon. Study hard! Remember last year, around this time, we played in the volleyball tournament you organized. We partied and we dirty danced. Bye man and take care.

Happy 16th birthday to my brother Victor Longchap on January 5 and my sister Vanessa Longchap on January 5 and many more to come. With love, sis, Victoria Longchap. Waswanipi.

Happy birthday to a friend of our, Melissa Gull (Junior) on January 14, 2000. Hey buddy!, have a blast. Don't party too much (Joke) From your friends in Waswanipi, CO, SH, GI, MH, AH, MJO, VLG, and LD.

Happy birthday to a very special friend of ours Marlene F, Ottereyes on January 27, 2000. Don't party too much (Joke) Have the best birthday ever. From your friends in Waswanipi, MG, GI, SH, MJO, AH, MW, CT and WI.

Feb. 28, 2000 is a special day for my father. His name is Jules Quachegan. Happy 36th birthday. Work hard Dad. I love you very much. Love always, your daughter, Krista N.

Happy birthday to Amanda Happyjack in Waswanipi on January 11, 2000. Take care of your self. don't party too much (Joke) From your buddies in Waswanipi.

Happy belated birthday to Corrina Hester on Oct. 3, Cheryl Hester Oct. 11, Jocelyne and Betty Blueboy on Oct. 18, Floria Hester on Oct. 21, and to my friend Janice Moar on October 19 (Hey Janice, I heard you had a big hang over after you partied) I hope all you ladies got what you wished for again. Happy belated birthday. From Barbara in Waskaganish.

Happy belated birthday to my cousin in Chisasibi, Daisy Hannah Cowboy on Oct. 4. I still remember when they told Grandpa that you were born and if he wanted to name you. He had this smile on his face that I can never forget. He seemed so happy that you had come into this world. He said, "Daisy Hannah... Daisy because of Googo, Hannah because of my mother." (Which is our great grandmother) he was so happy that day. I wish you could have known him. Again happy belated birthday. From your cousin Barbara (Waskaganish).

Happy birthday to our daughter Stephanie Hester "Babes" on November 8. We want to wish you all the joy and happiness and especially love on your birthday. Always remember that you are our babes and we love you very. With Love, William and Marlene (Mom and Dad) Your sister wishes you a happy birthday too (Tiff, EU, Kay and Marilee)

Happy birthday to my niece Babes (Stephanie D. Hester on November 8. Hope you have tons of fun and gifts. Have fun and don't stay out too long. I love you babes.

Happy birthday to our cousin Jethro on November 13. You're lucky it wasn't Friday the 13th. But since it's on a Saturday, have fun, if you party, but don't forget to invite us. Hope no one spoils it for you. Again, happy birthday cousin. From your two cousins on 9 Jack river drive.

Happy belated 1st birthday to my nephew Kevin Lyle Nicolas Gordie Moses on October 1st. I was glad to be there to see you blow out your candle (or hit!0 OI love you so much and mean the world to me. With love, your aunt Barbie (Waskaganish)

To my sister Cheryl. Growing closer day by day. As life and years bring change our way, finding more and more to share, I'm glad we're sisters, seeing one another through, sharing good and bad times too. Having one another there I'm so glad we're friends. With love on your birthday on Feb. 16, 2000. From your sister Maryanne.

Happy 1st birthday to our nephew Bailey Swallow on Feb. 1, 2000. You have brought joy into our lives. You filled our home with so much happiness. Happy birthday. With love always, your aunts, Rebecca, Dolores, Maryanne and Cheryl.

To my sister Cheryl Swallow on her birthday, Feb. 6, 2000. For all the happy times we had, for all the fun we've shared, for all the thoughtful things you've done, to show how much you cared, for every bond between us, this brings a wish your way, because a sister like you deserves a wonderful birthday. With love from your sister Dolores.

To my mom Annie Gunner. Thank you for supporting me. I'm thankful to have you. I love you so much and miss you a lot. Merry Christmas and happy new year. Love always, your daughter Virginia Saganash.

Happy birthday to Bianca Mapachee on November 22 and many more to come. Tu donnerais un gros bec a ton fils pour nous. Priscilla Coon-Come and Quindon (Waskaganish)

Happy birthday to Crystal Mark, Elaine Georgekish and Treat Georgekish on December 13. Happy birthday you guys and many more to come.

Birthday wishes to Christah Paradice on Dec, 15 and also to Yolanda Emerald, Shantal and Sallina Mercedes and Munroe C on

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the 17th. From Florriane and Samantha.

Celebrating her first birthday on Dec. 20 is our sister Starla Chelsea and we can't be happier. We're happy you're in our lives Starla but, don't hog all the attention from mom! From Raven, Maige, Ethan, Trento and Jullianna.

Happy 2nd birthday to a sweet girl. This birthday wish goes out to Theresa Leslie Ann Mianscum on December 8, 1999. Hugs and kisses going to you!! Love, Stephanie M.

Happy BIRTHDAY TO THESE PEOPLE: to MY DAD, Larry Tomatuk ON January 27, 2000. to MY COUSIN bailey swallow ON February 1ST, 2000. happy 1ST BIRTHDAY. and TO MY COUSINS Shawn Tomatuk ON Feb., 5, 2000, Roxanne pELCHAT ON Feb. 7, 2000 AND TO MY AUNT Cheryl swallow ON February 6, 2000. have Wonderful BIRTHDAYS AND MANY MORE TO COME. with LOVE FROM kERRIANNE Tomatuk (Eastmain)

Happy birthday to my husband Larry on January 27, 2000. Hope you have a wonderful birthday. With love from Delores.

Happy birthday to George on January 12, 2000.

Happy birthday to "Toto" on January ??, 2000. From Tweety. xoxoxoxo.

Happy birthday to my auntie all the way in Waskaganish, Amanda Jonah, on January 26, 2000. I had a great time at New years there. Don't worry, I'll be coming back soon. Smiles & kisses, from your nephew Simonsh.xoxoxo

I would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to my friend Charlotte Mac in Moosonee who will be celebrating her 19th birthday on January 18/00. I wish you the best in life and I hope you enjoy it very much. Once again HAPPY BIRTHDAY and many more to come. Fr: me in Wask.

Happy 3rd Birthday goes out to Thomas Chakapash Jr. on January 23, 2000 and many more to come. Love always Thomas and Alexandra Chakapash.

Happy 3rd birthday to our little brother Thomas Chakapash Junior on January 23, 2000. We are glad to be part ot the family and grow up together with our parents, Thomas and Alexandra Chakapash. We love you very much, from your sisters and brothers, Serena, Valentina, Robert and Brian Chakapash.

Happy Belated Birthday to my 4th nephew Tyler Jamie Moar on January turning 3,Happy Birthday Little Boy! and many more to come. Look auntie is busy sometimes I know I hardly come and visit you or play with you but to let you know you're always in my heart,Always will be apart of my life where ever I go or where ever I am and I never forget that I have a nephew who's name is Tyler or tylou that he's cute,looks so adorable with his glasses on and I Love you especially your smile. One thing I promise I will be there when you blow your candles .Again Happy Belated Birthday from your auntie Cynthia.

I would like to wish my namesake Joelle Micheline Small a happy 5th birthday on January 11, 2000. Don't grow up too fast, okay. I love you with all my heart. Once again, happy birthday and many more to come. Love always, your namesake Gloria.

Happy 1st birthday to Drew Ashley George, born January 28, 1999. Daughter of Andrew and Arleen. A very special little girl and a wonderful addition to our family circle. A sweet gift and a great blessing from the Creator. A bundle of joy, especially to your grateful parents who love you very much. Lots of love, hugs and kisses! Your mommy and daddy, grandma Mary, aunties, Maria and Jean and their families, Nellie and family, Karen and family, John and family, Stanley and family and your relatives from Six Nations Reserve, grandma Josette and grandpa George. Happy Birthday!!

Happy 4th birthday to two sweet little boys. Stanley George Jr. on February 2nd and Vernon Kawapit on February 19th. Hope you have lots of fun and many goodies on your birthdays! You both fill our hearts with love for you and bring laughter to the funny little things that you say and do as we watch you grow up and explore the world around you. Your loving parents, brothers and sisters, grandmas Mary and Eliza, aunties, uncles and relatives. Lots of love, hugs and kisses on your birthday. School, beware, they will be there in the fall!

Birthday greetings to my wonderful dad Robert Kanatewat on December 4th, 1999. You'll always be my # 1 dad. I will always love you. Happy 65th birthday and many more years to come. And to my adorable little niece Tatiana Faith Wabagoun Kanatewat on December 11th, 99. Tatiana I will always remember the day you were

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Aanischaaukamikw

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For a brochure, a CD-ROM, or other information about Aanischaaukamikw, call

Kenny Mianscum
(418) 745-3911,
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(514) 861-6329.

Aanischaaukamikw Profiles - Number 1

Culture: there's a lot of talk about it, and there are a number of theories about what it really is. However you may define it - through the ways of the land, through the stories your grandparents told you, or through the art and the music of Eeyou Istchee, culture is a little like the wind. It's there... but almost impossible to grasp unless you can feel it.

More than anything else, culture links us to past, present, and future: preparing us for an uncertain tomorrow by offering us lessons about ourselves - lessons as old as time.

Like our traditional hunting, fishing, and trapping grounds, Cree culture is in tremendous danger of being lost to the world. As the elders pass on, the stories and legends, passed on from generation to generation, could be lost forever.

For many years, the Elders have talked about capturing this spectrum of culture in a "living institution". And that's why Aanischaaukamikw is coming into being.

An educational institute, a cultural showplace, and a living museum, Aanischaaukamikw will be physically located in Oujé-Bougoumou - but its spirit will be tied to all nine Cree communities and beyond.

Aanischaaukamikw will offer:

- examples of our physical treasures and traveling exhibits;
- archaeological and anthropological research and study;
- conservation of our photographs, films, and documents;
- distance education and electronic outreach;
- the study, preservation, and development of the Cree language;
- skills workshops and on-the-land programs;
- TV productions, film, theatre and recordings of Cree celebration and performance.

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born. Last but not least my handsome nephew Matthew Raymond Emerson on December 18th, 99. One week later after Tatiana was born. Matthew (Chubb Chubb) last year you, mommy, daddy and your brother Peter Brian spend Christmas in Val d'Or. Your parents took you out from the hospital on Christmas morning. Your sister Marsha stayed with us. She couldn't wait to see you. I know you can't read yet but your mommy will read them to you when you get older. Tatiana and Matthew happy 1st birthday and many more years to come. Love you all. Love always, your daughter and auntie Lorraine K. (Hull)

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday dear Peter Brian Kanatewat. Happy birthday to you on January 28th, 2000. Peter Brian, 15 years ago you were a small baby when you came into this world and you turned into a fine handsome young man and you're tall. Happy 15th birthday and many more to come. I love you with all my heart. With h8ugs and lots of kisses, auntie Lorraine (Hull)

Wishing my sister Claudine Janet Kanatewat a happy 21st birthday and many more birthday to come. Bebe, now that you're a woman and had your own baby, we'll stop calling you Bebe. You'll always be our baby sister. We love you very much. As for Allen, happy birthday and many more...on Feb. 12th, 2000. And last but not least to my nephew in Waskaganish Steve Trevor Darcy Moar. Happy 11th birthday and many more birthdays to come on Feb. 28th, 2000. With love, your sister, friend and auntie Lorraine in Hull.

A birthday greeting to my friend from Nemaska Edward Jolly who will be celebrating his birthday on January 17th. May your birthday be as wonderful as you are. Happy birthday, merry Christmas and happy New year. Love always, Virginia Saganash. xoxoxoo

Happy birthday to Valentina Hester on Feb. 14 and to Doreen Georgekish on Feb. 17. We love you both. Have a wonderful birthday. With love from Sandra, Kerri-Ann and Bertha Hughboy)Wemindji) xoxoxoxo.

Happy 11th birthday to my sister Laurianne H. on January 12, 2000. May this special day bring you lots of happiness and may all your wishes come true. From your sister Sophia H. PS. I love you and take care.

Birthday greetings to my brother George Morris Snowboy from Chisasibi on November 8. I just want to thank you for being such a good, caring person and to tell you not to change your personality. I wouldn't sell you for anything, not even for a million dollars (You know that song, Brother For Sale"? Naah! Have a great day on your birthday, sit back, relax and don't forget to save me a piece of your cake. From Diane.

This is for my friend Louise Lameboy-Visitor, her birthday is on November8. Don't worry I still remember your birthday and think of you from time to time. Even though we can't talk that much. Have a great day. From your childhood friend Diane.

Happy 12th birthday to our niece/cousin in Eastmain. Her name is Katrina Gilpin. Hey girl, you're 12 now. Just think in another year you'll be a teenager right!! Her birthday is on November 25, 99. With love from Joanne, Annie, Marilyn and your cousins, Austin and Nicholas.

Happy 11th birthday to my sister Victoria Longchap on January 12 and many more to come. From your sister Vanessa Longchap.

Belated birthday wishes going to my friend (Miss Heartbreaker), Lee Ann Matoush who celebrated her 16th birthday on Jan. 8, 2000. Hope you had a nice birthday. From friend, Melanie G.

We would like to wish our niece and granddaughter Sonia Petawabano a happy 13th on December 2, 1999. Wow, Sonia your first year as a teenager. Behave yourself and good luck next term! We love you so much. With love, Grandma Eva, Stephanie and Frances. xoxoxoxo.

Wow! Happy 1st birthday to Linus Metabie on December 3 and to Adora Grace Shecapio on November 30, 1999. Have lots and lots of fun on your birthdays. Hugs and kisses going to you both. Love, Stephanie M.

Happy birthday to Celina Chakapash and Norman Bearskin on December and many more to come from your cousins Lori, Marina and Martina in Montreal.

Happy belated birthday to my Grandma Violet Pachano on November 13. From your favorite grandson William Pachano in Montreal. xoxoxox.

Happy birthday to my daddy from Waswanipi, Johnny C. Icebound on November ??, 1999. Happy birthday daddy. I hope your birthday was special as special as you are. I'll be thinking about you. Don't drink now! I love you. I miss you so much. Hope to see you soon. Mommy says happy birthday. Love, your baby boy Darius Joey Blacksmith I. xoxoxoxoxo. Hi Kookum!! Hi to my uncles, aunts, cousins. Love you guys.

Happy 20th birthday to my boyfriend Freddie Lee Neacappo. He will celebrate his birthday on December 7, 1999. I hope your day is as special as you are. Happy birthday Freddie and I love you so much. With love, Daisy T. (Nem)

Happy first birthday to my nephew Tyron Chris and my niece Tyra Angel Fleming. They will celebrate their birthday on December 7, 1999. I miss you both, especially you Tyra! Both of you have a blast on your birthday and I love you both. From your aunt Daisy T. (Nem.) xo0x0x0x0.

I would like to wish my daddy Kenny T. a happy birthday. He will celebrate his birthday on December 4, 19999. Happy birthday dad and I hope your day is as special as you are. I love you so much and I hope I will afford to buy a cake for you or should I just ask you for the money! (Just joking) With love, your daughter, Daisy T. (Nem.) xx0x0x0

To my baby sister Brittany Rosyna Faye. I would like to take time to wish my little sister a happy birthday on January 17. Turned 7 years old and I want you to know that I like having you as a sister. I love you a lot. Even sometimes I make you cry or hit you. It doesn't mean that I don't love you. I do love you very much as much as you love mom and dad. I'll always be here for you my sister, always!! From your sister who loves you so much. From Waskaganish.

Elston Lee Elvis turned 2 years old on November 24. Son of Lorraine Jolly and Elvis Salt. I would like to wish him a happy belated birthday and I want him to know that I love him very much even if he doesn't understand. No words can say how much you mean to me. I love you with all my heart. I'm proud to say that you're my nephew cause you're the littlest person, I love you sooo much. Happy birthday Laa-Laash. With love from your auntie. Waskaganish. Love ya! xoxoxoxo lots.

I wouldn't forget to say happy birthday to my friend on January 6, Keena Rosa Hester. Happy birthday Girl, have fun. Love in friendship, your buddy.

Birthday wishes going to Delphis Gunner. Enjoy your day God bless you! We love you! From mom and dad and brother Marvin.

I would like to take this time to wish my cuz Bianca Mapachee a happy belated birthday. Her special day is on Nov. 22, 1999. I hope you have fun enjoyed your day. From ST.

A belated birthday wish going out to Wyonna Tianna Cooncome on December 15, 1999. And Quindon Devon Benjamin Whiskeychan on December 19, 1999. Have a great time on your special day and don't eat too much cake or you'll get so hyper. Once again happy birthday. Love, your auntie, ST.

Wishing a birthday wish to someone very special, my niece of Wyonna Tianna Coon-Come on December 15, 1999. Once again happy birthday and many more years to come. Love always, PCC.

Birthday wish going out to make you adorable son Quindon Devon Benjamin Whiskeychan December 19, 1999. Happy belated birthday son. We love you very much. Love always, mom and dad (Priscilla, Kevin). xoxox.

Happy birthday to our beautiful angel Josephine on November 19. We are very happy to have you in our lives. You have brought so much happiness, laughter, bright sunshine and beautiful flowers and most of all love ever since we had you. We thank the good lord for giving us this adorable little girl to raise, to hold, laugh with, sing with the most of all to love and

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care for. We love you so much. From mommy and daddy (Mary Selma and Alex Nabinacaboo) and your godarent's Michael, Jeannie Quiscappio and your grandma Susie Nabinacaboo and Christina Nabinacaboo and Gilles Corbeil

Happy birthday to Jenny Saganash at the CHRD office in Montreal and Jan. 21, 2000. From your special secret admirer. With lots of love and kisses. Hope you're dreaming of me again. Smiles.

Happy birthday to our granddaughter Katrina Cecily Emily Gilpin in Eastmain. She'll be twelve years old on November 25, 1999. The day she was born she had to be flown out to Rouyn fro medical treatment to her lungs. That is why we are very grateful to see her celebrate her birthday year after year. Again, happy birthday and many more to come. With love, grandma Emily and grandpa Abraham in Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to my sister Katherine Salt on February 19 and her husband Rene Salt on February 17 and also to my niece Maureen Salt on February 22. God bless you all. From Brenda, Howard and kids.

Happy birthday to my friend Brenda Napash Bobbish on January 22, 2000 and to Greta Louttit on January 20, 2000. I hope you have a wonderful day Brenda and have fun in Val d'Or. Don't go crazy or anything. Take care you guys. Your friend always, Ida.

102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations and best wishes to my sister Louisa Bobbish and her husband Nelson Blackned on their beautiful wedding day on December 31st, 1999. Wishing you all the best in life and the years to come. With love, your sister, matron of honor, Janet.

103-ANNIVERSAIES

Happy 18th anniversary to my parents Peter and Dorothy Longchap on January 12. We love you. From your daughters Victoria and Vanessa and your only son Victor Longchap.

300-PERSONALS

To my boyfriend from Nemaska, Anderson Jolly. Thank you for sharing your love with me. Don't forget I love you with every beat of my heart. Merry Christmas and happy new year. Love always, your girlfriend Virginia S. xoxoxoxo.

Bonjour! Judy Rose Trapper on voulais te dire qu'on t'aime beaucoup et on pense a toi: Sakik (Joke) tes soeurs Priscilla and Shannon. xoxoxo.

A big HELLO to my friend Laura Mianscum in Mist. I just thought I would drop a line or two to say hello. So how are you these days? I haven't heard or seen you in a while. Well for me things are good I guess here in wask. So why don't you give me a call sometime. Well bye and take care. Fr: Rhonda

I would like to say HELLO to a friend of mine in Ottawa. Yeah you Miriam Moar. hey so how is it in college so far. Here in wask it's a ok I guess. I just thought I would drop a line or two to say hello. Well see you and good luck in your studies in college. fr: RJI

To my sister in Nemaska Patricia Saganash. Patricia, the way we always care creates the family ties that bind us while everything we share adds to our memories which reminds us that a sister is a friend who always stands behind us even closer than before. That's how the coming years will find us. Patricia, don't forget I will always love you with every beat of my heart and I miss you a lot. Merry Christmas and happy new year. Love, sister Virginia Saganash. xoxoxoxo.

This goes out to my best friend Marilyn Ruth Shecapio. I just wanted to let you know that your friendship means alot to me. I tell you everything about me. My hopes, dreams, secrets and my feelings. I also wanted to thank you for being understanding, trustworthy, caring and thanks for being there for me to the good times and the bad times. Always remember you'll always be my best friend. Well. I better stop writing before I get emotional (Joke) PS. When are you going to get married. (Joke) From your best friend Veronica Longchap.

Hi to my friend in Vald'Or. Her name is Marie Claude Lameboy. I hope life's treating you fine. I've been trying to get a hold you for some time now. I hope you'll see this because I'd love to hear from you. Even if you're too busy, the postcard will do. Same address. Still stuck in this same old @#$% town. I hope to hear from you. Friend always, Barbara Hester (Waskaganish)

Happy Valentine's day to my nephews and nieces. George, Victoria, Eric, Casey, Alexander, Isaac, Diana Rose and the new one on the way. I love you all very much. Love, Ida.

Alice Wapachee and Joyce Bosum in Chibougamau. It has been a long, long time since we've written to each other. To be honest, I don't even know if you still live in Chibougamau. Hopefully someone you know will see this and tell you that I said hi. I hope both of you ladies will write. PO Box 129, Waskaganish, Quebec, J0M 1R0. I'd give you my number but too many weird callers these days (In other words people that like to swear at people over the phone. Hope you know what I mean. Friend Barbara Hester in Waskaganish.

Merry Christmas Babes! I know you won't be spending Christmas with your family this year so...I thought it would be nice to try and make your Christmas warmer and less lonely. Remember, you have me to come to if you aren't feeling at home or any of that Christmas spirit. Luv baby. PS. Merry Christmas Chucky.

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Hello to someone special I met in Val d'Or. We had a good time. Especially in the Hotel L'Escale, room 116, a few years back. I want to tell you I miss you and hope someday, somewhere, somehow we will be together again. I miss talking to you. The song we shared was Bryan Adams' "Please Forgive Me" and still goes out to you. I hope you'll call me as soon as you see this. Love, from Lady.

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The Québec **Tobacco Act** lays down new rules for the use and sale of tobacco products.

Smoking is now prohibited in workplaces and in most enclosed spaces to which the public has admittance, apart from rooms set aside for that purpose.

On certain types of premises–restaurants, shopping centres, hotels and bowling alleys, for example–operators may set aside up to 40% of common areas, rooms or seats, as the case may be, where smoking is permitted.

In addition, to better protect youngsters from exposure to tobacco smoke, it is absolutely forbidden to smoke on premises intended for them, such as day care centres, and elementary and secondary schools.

The Act also contains measures restricting the sale and advertising of cigarettes and all other tobacco products. For example, it is strictly forbidden to sell tobacco to young people under 18.

Operators of establishments must ensure compliance with the Act on their premises. They must see that no one smokes where prohibited. They are also responsible for receiving and dealing with complaints about their establishments.

We all have the power and the duty to act in order to better protect public health and prevent smoking by young people.

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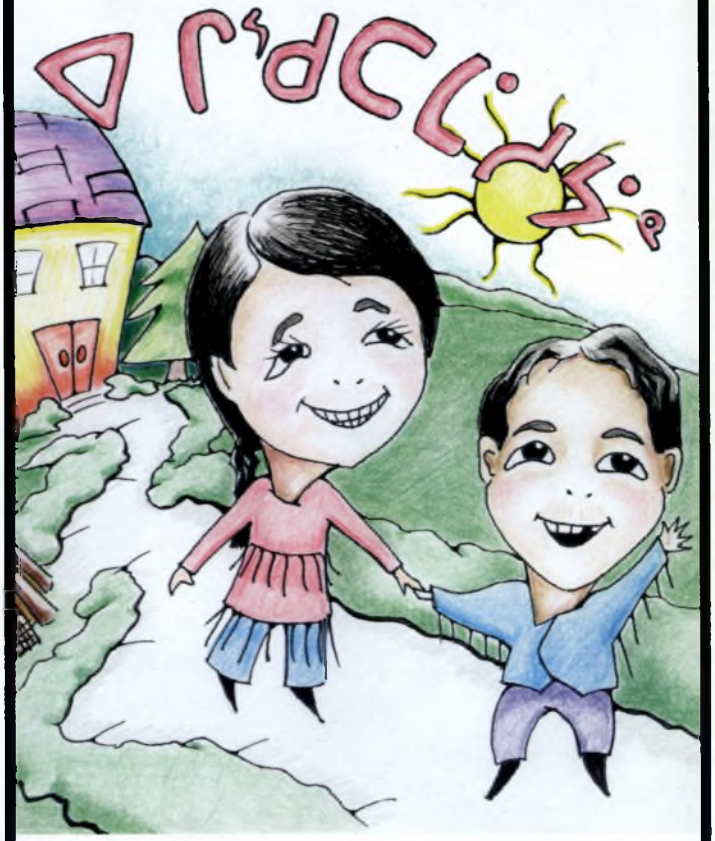

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